

# Magazine Feature Section

## CONFIDENCE!! The Secret of One-Run JONES' Success.



FIELDER JONES DIRECTING  
THE TEAM.

### The 'Miracle Man' of Baseball Makes Winners Out of Chronic Losers, Demonstrating that in Baseball a Team Is Never Beaten Until the Last Man Is Out.

BY GLEN L. WALLAR.

**I**N baseball, as in any other struggle for supremacy, regardless of what walk in life, the one big essential toward success is CONFIDENCE. To be inspired with that one ingredient will often result in the overcoming of weaknesses that would mean defeat without the self-importance. The wonderful showing made by the St. Louis Browns, something of rare occurrence for a Mound City team, has created interest all over the country, and the one big question on the lips of two out of three of the millions of fans who watched the great rise of the Browns was and is: How did they accomplish it?

Of course, nearly all of these same wild-eyed, pop-eyed and sometimes insane fanatics answer their own query by stating that it was one Fielder Alanson Jones who brought fame to St. Louis by putting the Sportsman's Park aggregation in the thick of the fight for the American League pennant, but do these fans figure how this one man, Jones, has been able to perform what is heralded on all sides as a miracle performance? No; at least a very few. They simply say that Jones knows baseball and instructs the men under him how to play it. Virtually every one overlooks the real factor in the success of the teams led by Jones.

We are going to let you in on the secret by saying that the one word—CONFIDENCE—is the most important cog in the Browns' machine. Manager Jones' christian name should be Confidence. His system is so full of it that such a thing as failure is an absolutely foreign subject with him and the kind that the wily Brown boss owns is really contagious if you associate with him for any length of time. He instills this confidence in all of his associates, and it acts like magic. When the boss magician gets control, and in baseball let it be known he has never failed, his team simply becomes one big bunch of confidence. Each man has been inspired to such a degree that he can do his work just a little bit better than anyone else; his teammates can handle their positions beyond reproach; and, in the minds of the play-

ers, the boss confidence man, Manager Jones, is "the know it all" of baseball. As a fitting climax, Boss Jones himself holds the opinion that his players are just about "kings of the diamond." This is the exact condition on the St. Louis American League club today, and, without doubt, is in a large measure responsible for the team's wonderful success.

Of course, there has to be a groundwork upon which to build this confidence, and it is here that Jones' extraordinary intuition and natural ability in connection with the national pastime have laid the foundation. As a player, Jones was considered one of the brainiest and most valuable of his day. There were many who would get more hits than the present boss of the Browns, but they were few in number who hit to better advantage, and as to taking care of the outer garden, the name Fielder was very appropriate. Jones was considered one of the greatest fly chasers the game ever developed.

A success as a ballplayer, Jones took up the managerial end of the sport in 1904, continuing as a player. The confidence in himself that he carried as a subordinate did not desert him when he took reins of the Chicago White Sox, but in fact really increased to such a marked degree that his teammates began to catch the fever before he had been their leader many weeks. Jones showed the boys how he thought the game should be played and then put the inspiration in them that they could play it that way. The result was that the faltering White Sox took a brace, and at the end of the season were in the thick of the battle for the flag.

The five years that Jones had charge of Comiskey's team Chicago never finished lower than third in the American League, going this low twice, while the flag and world's championship were captured once, with the team winding up in second place the other two years. In 1908, the last year Jones was leader of the White Sox, the team was fighting for the pennant on the final day of the race, losing the game to Detroit, 7 to 0. The defeat cost Chicago the pennant and sent the team to third place. Cleveland finishing second. In 1906 the White Sox won the pennant and then beat the Chicago Nationals for the world's championship. The Sox made just such a sport that year that Jones' Browns have made in 1916, the 1906 White Sox playing nineteen games without a defeat, one tie game on the thirteenth contest breaking the string of victories, the game being a 0-0 battle with New York. The noteworthy feature of that feat was that Chicago was on the road at the time.

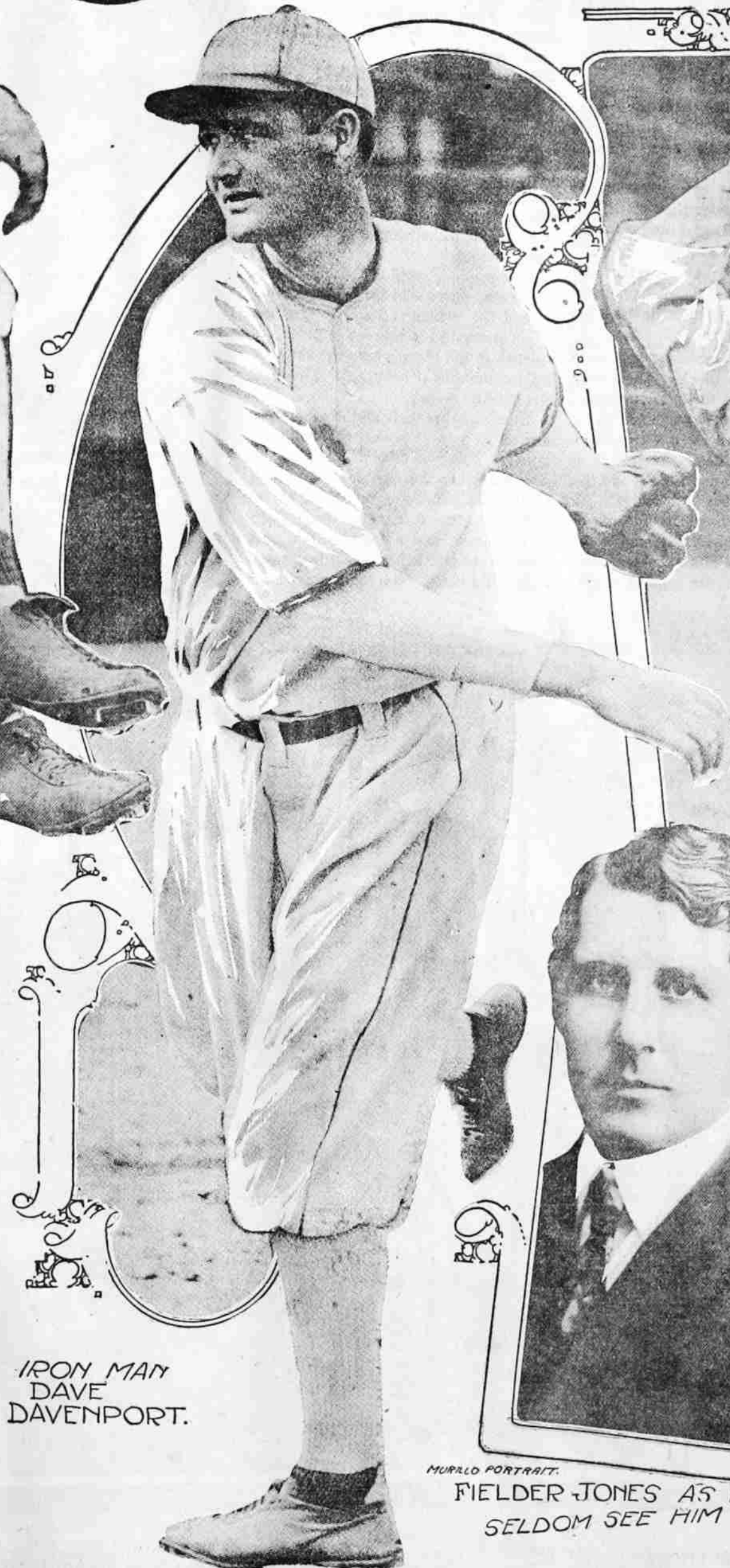
Individually, Jones had a very ordinary-looking team, with the exception of his pitchers, during his entire reign at Chicago, but it was his style of play and the winning spirit that he instilled into his men that gave Chicago a pennant contender every year of the five year the old Roman has had nothing that compared with the showing Jones made for him. It might also be said that Jones made Comiskey the fortune that he now has. On the White Sox that Jones commanded the following were the prominent players: Donohue, Isbell, George Davis, Lee Tannehill, George

Rohe, Pat Dougherty, Eddie Hahn, Tip O'Neil, Walsh, White, Owens, Frank Smith, Nick Altrock, Billy Sullivan, Ed McFarland, Hart and himself. Surely not a collection of stars. Several of the bunch had been transferred and kicked around considerably and were never rated as stars until Jones put them at the top of the pedestal.

His pitchers—Ed Walsh, Doc White, Frank Smith, Frank Owens and Nick Altrock—did form a fancy combination, but again we say that it was even Jones who made this bunch of twirlers famous the country over. Jones gained his nickname of "One-Run" Jones while in command of these twirlers, but until Fielder put this bunch through his own systematic order of training they could not be considered extraordinary. The Sox were christened the "Hitless Wonders," owing to the fact that they could score a run on less offensive work than any team in the country and then with their superb pitching win games on virtually nothing.

This is the Jones style of play, though, and when he retired from baseball at the end of the 1908 season he took the system with him

IRON MAN  
DAVE  
DAVENPORT.



MURDO PORTRAIT.

FIELDER JONES AS WE  
SELDOM SEE HIM



EDDIE PLANK THE OLD  
MAN OF THE MOUND.

of the players he desired it was up to him to get the right combination and then start the process of teamwork, so essential to Jones' style of play.

Of course, working with new players who were not accustomed to his style the Browns were slow to start. It took weeks to get them going together as Jones desired and an addition the club suffered a world of tough breaks during the early part of the season. When the team was "in the near," or, in other words, just below Jones' idea of what it should be, it appeared as if nothing could break right.

On the June-July road trip the club lost fourteen games of which eleven were by the margin of one run. The fans at home were knocking, but Fielder Alanson Jones kept a stiff upper lip. He saw in the offing the club that he was striving for. The players were catching his spirit. He was finally drilling into their minds the baseball intuition that was his, and confidence was taking hold despite the heart-breaking defeats.

At last Jones got his pitchers up to the line point that he wanted. He got Marans, Miller and Shotton playing the outfield as he desired and last, but not least, he saw his infield making plays the way he knew they should be played. The boys were moving as by instinct. The team got a few breaks and then confidence took a hold with the result that the Browns became an almost unbeatable team.

Davenport and Plank, two of the Jones headliners in his rush for honors in 1915 as Federal Leaguers, are again prominent standbys in the fight for the American League pennant. They are more fortunate, though, this year than last, as they have several capable assistants in Carl Weiland, Ernie Koop, Bob Groom and Earl Hamilton. Last year it was Big Dave or Southpaw Eddie in nearly every critical situation, although Otis Crandall did much to keep the Terriers in the pennant race.

It is not what you were, though, but what you are today that counts in baseball, as in virtually everything else, and, fortunately for St. Louis, the Browns and Jones. It appears as if Davenport and Plank will get the required help that will mean much toward bringing a pennant to the Mound City for the first time in nearly thirty years.

in retirement, where it stayed until he jumped back into the game again at the flag end of the 1914 season as manager of the St. Louis Federal. Jones did but little after succeeding Miner Brown and therefore it can hardly be said that he really got back into action, as he terms action, until last Spring, when he took command of the 1915 Terriers. The common remark around town was: "Oh, Jones has been out of the game too long to prove a success as a manager now." The majority were of the opinion that the Fielder had not kept up with the game and that he would be behind the times in comparison with the present-day managers.

These pessimists said Jones' style of play which won games for him in 1904 to 1908, good pitching, a tight defense and good base running, would win games in any old league at any old time. Of course, Fielder was a stranger to his players and the league as well. It took him a little time to get his "bearings" and to get in working order with his players. Several members of the team did not fit in with his style of play and time was lost in making the necessary changes. Several players had to

be revamped, so to say. A player may have suited Jones, but his style of play did not. Several of the Federal League teams were evenly matched, therefore the Terriers had hard sledding, but in August they started with a string of thirteen straight victories, got up near the lead in the race and stayed the remainder of the year. With a fairly tight defense and some good pitching by Dave Davenport, Eddie Plank and Otis Crandall, the Terriers made a great bid for the flag, losing out to Chicago by less than a point. It was a wonderful finish. On September 21 the Terriers were four games behind Pittsburgh, who occupied first place. Just fifteen days later, October 4, the season closed with Chicago first, St. Louis second and Pittsburgh third, less than a game separating the three teams.

The making of peace between organized baseball and the Federal League last winter resulted in Jones being thrown into a strange bed again this spring. The Browns and Terriers amalgamated. Jones had sixty players to hand-pick down until today he has about twenty-one or twenty-two. After making the selection